

antérieures terminé par une griffe, la tige de l'ambulacre (rejetée sur le côté) longue et grêle; le tarse des pattes IV tronqué comme chez *Mesalges*.—*Femelle* à pattes III portant trois épines autour de la tige de l'ambulacre, et munie d'une plaque notogastrique. *Nymphes* et *larves* dépourvues d'ambulacre à cette patte, qui se termine par des épines.

Type: *Megninia psoroptopus* sur *Dichoceros bicornis* de Malaisie.

#### METANAIGES, gen. nov.

*Mâle* à abdomen très allongé, dépassant de beaucoup les pattes III qui ont le tarse court; pattes IV sous-abdominales, plus courtes mais aussi grosses à leur base que les pattes III, à tarse tronqué et échancré. Abdomen fortement échancré, bilobé. Manchettes des pattes antérieures peu prononcées.—*Femelle* dépourvue de plaque notogastrique.

Type: *Megninia elongata* sur *Tricholimnas lafresnayanus* de Nouvelle-Calédonie.

*Nota*.—C'est par suite d'une erreur d'étiquette que cette espèce a été indiquée précédemment comme trouvée sur *Ocydromus australis*. L'espèce était classée dans le genre *Ocydromus* avant la création du g. *Tricholimnas*, Sharpe, en 1893.

#### XXXIV.—On the Genus *Aorus*, Schh. (*Coleoptera*, Curculionidæ). By GUY A. K. MARSHALL, D.Sc.

SCHÖNHERR'S genus *Aorus* appears to have been entirely overlooked by recent students of the Curculionidæ, and this has probably been due to the fact that Lacordaire, who professed to have been acquainted with the type-species, erroneously placed it among the Cossoninæ, although Schönherr himself quite rightly pointed out its very close relationship to his South-American genus *Amalactus*. The genus has consequently been redescribed by several authors, as shown in the following synonymy:—

#### Genus AORUS, Schh.

*Aorus*, Schönherr, Gen. Curc. iii. 1836, p. 253.—Type, *A. spadiceus*, Gyl.

*Leptobaris*, Gerstaecker, Monats. Berl. Ak. 1855, p. 639 (syn. nov.).—Type, *A. castaneus*, Gerst.

*Exarcus*, Pascoe, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (5) xix. 1880, p. 372 (syn. nov.).—Type, *A. hearseyi*, Pasc.

*Stenodema*, Faust, Ent. Nachr. xi. 1885, p. 16.—Type, *A. castaneus*, Gerst. (= *ferrugineus*, Fst.).

Gerstaecker assigned the genus to the Baridinæ, from which, however, it must be excluded owing to the structure of the mesepimera; whereas Faust placed it in the Eirrhiniinæ, and this seems the most satisfactory conclusion.

*Key to the Species of Aorus.*

- 1 (14). Second joint of front tarsi as broad as or broader than long; prothorax coarsely punctate at the sides.
- 2 (5). Prothorax coarsely punctate throughout; intervals of elytra each with a single row of distinct widely spaced punctures.
- 3 (4). Punctures on the prothorax much broader than the interspaces between them; punctures in the striæ of the elytra subquadrate and as broad as or broader than the intervals. . . . . *spadiceus*, Gyl.
- 4 (3). Punctures on the prothorax narrower than the interspaces; punctures on the elytra round and narrower than the intervals . . . . . *castaneus*, Gerst.
- 5 (2). Prothorax finely punctate on the disk and much more coarsely so at the sides and base; intervals of elytra impunctate or with minute irregular punctures.
- 6 (13). Prothorax not or but very slightly broader than long; length 7–10 mm.
- 7 (10). Form more elongate, the elytra nearly three times as long as the prothorax; second joint of funicle longer, the third as long as broad; colour red-brown. (Asiatic species.)
- 8 (9). Anterior tibiæ with a very strong angular process internally in the middle, bearing a tooth that is directed obliquely forwards; the width of the tibia to the tip of this tooth as great as at the apex including the uncus; the basal external angles of the elytra acute. . . . . *hearseyi*, Pasc.
- 9 (8). Anterior tibiæ only slightly and roundly produced internally, the teeth small, vertical, and not projecting more than half as far as the apical uncus; the basal external angles of the elytra rounded . . . . . *ferrugineus*, Boh.
- 10 (7). Form stouter, the elytra only a little

- more than twice as long as the prothorax; second joint of funicle shorter, the third transverse; colour piceous black. (African species.)
- 11 (12). Forehead as broad as the base of the rostrum; prothorax broadest at the middle; elytra with distinct striæ containing closely-set punctures; tibiæ armed internally with stout teeth and with a long external apical spine . . . . . *anthracinus*, Brancs.
- 12 (11). Forehead much narrower than the base of the rostrum; prothorax broadest well before the middle; elytra hardly striate on the disk, with rows of large rounded foveæ separated by spaces as long as the foveæ themselves; tibiæ merely serrate internally and with a very short external apical spine . . . . . *cancellatus*, sp. n.
- 13 (6). Prothorax distinctly broader than long; length 5.5 mm. . . . . *picea*, Fst.
- 14 (1). Second joint of front tarsi nearly twice as long as broad; prothorax very finely punctate at the sides, more strongly so on the disk; colour reddish brown . . . . . *tenuipes*, sp. n.

### 1. *Aorus spadiceus*, Gyl.

*Aorus spadiceus*, Gyllenhal, Schönh. Gen. Curc. iii. 1836, p. 254.

*Leptobaris gerstaeckeri*, Faust, Stett. ent. Zeit. 1894, p. 148 (syn. nov.).

SENEGAL. SIERRA LEONE. N. NIGERIA: Baro (*Dr. J. J. Simpson*). ABYSSINIA.

### 2. *Aorus castaneus*, Gerst.

*Leptobaris castanea*, Gerstaecker, Monatsb. Berl. Ak. 1855, p. 639; id., Peters's Reise Mozamb. ii. 1862, p. 315, pl. xviii. fig. 14; Faust, Stett. ent. Zeit. 1894, pp. 149 & 360.

*Stenodema ferruginea*, Faust, Ent. Nachr. xi. 1885, p. 17.

*Leptobaris brunnea*, Brancsik, Soc. Hist. Nat. Trencsén, xix.-xx. 1897 (1898), p. 124, pl. iv. fig. 16 (syn. nov.).

N. RHODESIA: Boroma (*Rev. H. P. Menyharth*). NYASALAND (*Thelwall*); S.W. shore of L. Nyasa, ii.-iii. 1910, and Ruvo Valley, iii. 1910 (*S. A. Neave*); Fort Herald, on grass, v.-vi. 1913 (*Dr. J. E. S. Old*). PORTUGUESE E. AFRICA: Mozambique (*Peters*, type).

### 3. *Aorus harseyi*, Pasc.

*Exarcus harseyi*, Pascoe, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (5) xix. 1880, p. 372.

*Exarcus pascoei*, Faust, Deut. ent. Zeits. 1898, p. 286 (syn. nov.).

BURMA : Rangoon (type) ; Tharrawaddy (*G. C. Corbett*).

Faust was not acquainted with Pascoe's species, and his description of *E. pascoei* agrees in all particulars with Pascoe's type. As, moreover, the localities from which the two unique types came are only 50 miles apart, there seems to be little reason for doubting that they belong to a single species.

4. *Aorus ferrugineus*, Boh.

*Aorus ferrugineus*, Boheman, Schönh. Gen. Curc. viii. pt. 2, 1845, p. 444.

JAVA (type). INDO-CHINA : Cho-ganh, Tonkin (*L. Duroport*) ; Kampong Kedej, Cambodia, iv. 1914 (*R. Vitalis de Salvaza*).

I am indebted to M. E. Fleutiaux for three specimens from Tonkin, which I attribute to this species. I have not seen the type, which is in Copenhagen, but the Indo-Chinese examples accord so well with Boheman's description that I can have little doubt as to the correctness of the identification. M. Fleutiaux informs me that in Tonkin this species is very common in the month of May on the ears of rice.

5. *Aorus anthracinus*, Brancs.

*Leptobaris anthracina*, Brancsik, Soc. Hist. Nat. Trencsén, xix.-xx. 1897 (1898), p. 124, pl. iv. fig. 17.

N. RHODESIA : Boroma (*Rev. H. P. Menyharth*, type).  
 PORTUGUESE E. AFRICA : Beira, vii. 1903 (*P. A. Sheppard*).  
 UGANDA : Kampala, x.-xi. 1917 (*G. C. Gowdey*). SENEGAL.

6. *Aorus cancellatus*, sp. n.

♂. Colour shining piceous black, without any trace of scaling or setæ ; the legs and antennæ piceous.

*Head* with small sparse shallow punctures, the vertex transversely aciculate, the forehead much narrower than the base of the rostrum and with a deep round central fovea. *Rostrum* stout, as long as the prothorax, slightly curved at the insertion of the antennæ, subcylindrical from the base to beyond the middle, thence distinctly dilated to the apex, distinctly and evenly but not very closely punctate throughout, the punctures at the sides being larger than those above ; the antennæ inserted at about one-fourth from the apex. *Prothorax* a little broader than long, strongly rounded at the sides, broadest well before the middle, the base truncate, the apical constriction well marked, and a shallow transverse

impression close to the basal margin; the upper surface rather flattened and with fine sparse punctures on the disk, those in the basal impression and at the sides very coarse, being much broader than the spaces between them. *Elytra* subcylindrical, rather broader than the widest part of the prothorax, the basal margin gently sinuate, its external angles rounded, and the sides shallowly constricted before the apex; the disk scarcely striate, but with rows of foveæ separated longitudinally by spaces about as long as the foveæ themselves, the rows becoming striate externally and behind and with the punctures more closely placed; the intervals with sparse minute irregular punctures, plane and as broad as the foveæ on the disk, but becoming slightly costate towards the sides and apex, the junction of the second and tenth intervals at the apex only slightly elevated. *Legs* with the femora finely and sparsely punctate and not with coarser punctures towards the apex; the tibiæ not armed internally with the usual long teeth, but with short serrations, the posterior pairs being scarcely sinuate internally, and the apical external tooth very short on all the tibiæ; the second joint of the front tarsi broader than long.

*Length* 8 mm., *breadth* 3 mm.

ANGOLA: Benguella (*Coll. Pascoe*).

*Type* in the British Museum.

Superficially resembles *A. anthracinus*, but differs from all the species known to me in its coarsely punctate elytra and in having the forehead narrower than the base of the rostrum.

#### 7. *Aorus tenuipes*, sp. n.

♂. Colour light reddish brown, shiny, with the apex of the prothorax and the tips of the femora darker; the body entirely devoid of scales or setæ.

*Head* very sparsely punctate, the forehead rather broader than the base of the rostrum and with a large central fovea. *Rostrum* about as long as the prothorax, stout, rather strongly curved, cylindrical and not dilated at the apex; the punctation fine and rather sparse, but coarser at the sides in the basal half; the antennæ inserted at one-fourth from the apex. *Prothorax* slightly broader than long, strongly rounded at the sides, broadest about the middle, sharply narrowed at the apex but scarcely constricted, the base truncate and shallowly depressed below the level of the disk; the upper surface markedly flattened, with small deep punctures on the disk, which are narrower than the spaces between them, those at the sides much finer and shallower. *Elytra* a little more than

twice as long as broad and two and a half times as long as the prothorax, parallel-sided in the basal third, then gradually narrowed to the apex, before which there is a shallow constriction; the basal margin gently sinuate, with the external angles rounded, the apex truncate; the striæ shallow on the disk, but deeper behind and on the inflexed margins, and containing closely set deep punctures; the intervals about as broad as the striæ, slightly convex, and with a few very minute punctures, the junction of intervals 2 and 10 at the apex distinctly swollen. *Legs* comparatively long and slender; the femora minutely coriaceous and with very sparse fine punctures throughout; the tibiæ gently sinuate externally, the inner edge deeply bisinuate and armed with strong setigerous teeth in the apical half, and the external apical spine long and distinctly curved; the tarsi unusually long and slender, the second joint of the front pair being nearly twice as long as broad.

*Length* 7 mm., *breadth* 2.2 mm.

PORTUGUESE E. AFRICA: Beira, vii. 1903 (*P. A. Sheppard*).

*Type* in the British Museum.

The slender tarsi and very fine lateral punctation of the prothorax distinguish this insect from all the other species of the genus.

#### 8. *Aorus piceus*, Fst.

*Leptobaris picea*, Faust, Stett. ent. Zeit. 1894, pp. 148 & 149.

SIERRA LEONE.

I have not succeeded in identifying this species, which, so far as can be judged from Faust's very brief description, must resemble a dwarfed specimen of *A. anthracinus*, Brancs.

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XXXV.—*Crossophorus collaris*, Hemprich & Ehrenberg, a little-known Nematode Parasite of the Hyrax. By H. A. BAYLIS, M.A.

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AN opportunity having recently occurred of examining specimens of this very curious and highly specialized Ascarid from the hyrax (*Procavia* sp.), it seems desirable to describe the species in somewhat fuller detail than has hitherto been done. The existing descriptions (Hemprich and Ehrenberg,